

A NEW SPECIES OF BRICKELLIA FROM CHIHUAHUA MEXICO

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Recent collections by Dr. Guy Nesom and Paul Lewis have revealed the following novelty in Brickellia.

Brickellia lewisii B.L. Turner, sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

B. parvula A. Gray accedens sed capitulis minoribus saepe geminias nutantibus.

Shrublet 20-30 cm high. Stems terete, brownish, minutely puberulent. Leaves 1.0-1.5 cm long, mostly opposite, alternate just below the flowering heads; petioles 2-4 mm long; blades ovate-detoid to subcordate, 3-nervate from the base, minutely rough-hispid and abundantly atomiferous-punctate above and below, the margins 4-6 dentate. Heads both terminal and axillary, nodding, borne singly or paired on slender bracteate peduncles 10-30 mm long. Involucre 4-5 seriate, imbricate, 8-10 mm long; bracts ca. 14, ovate-lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, glabrous or nearly so, the margins scarious and sparsely ciliate. Receptacle convex, sparsely pubescent. Florets ca. 10 per head; corollas tubular, glabrous, ca. 5 mm long, the lobes 5, ca. 0.5 mm long. Achenes ca. 4 mm long, densely white hirsute; pappus of 30-40 subplumose bristles 5-6 mm long.

TYPE: MEXICO. Chihuahua: ca. 2 mi S of Basaseachic, top of plateau near confluence of Rios Basaseachic and Durazno, just S of Casada Basaseachic, 2100 m; locally abundant in crevices and soil accumulations on rocks along river; 18 Aug 1984, Guy Nesom & Paul Lewis 5096 (holotype: TEX; isotypes ENCB, MEX, NY).

The species is clearly related to Brickellia parvula A. Gray, of the subsection Parvulae of Section Bulbostylis as treated by Robinson (1917), which, so far as known, is confined to the frontier regions of southern Arizona, southern New Mexico and trans-Pecos Texas. Brickellia parvula is readily distinguished by its stiffly erect, larger, singly-borne heads which possess somewhat larger florets.

I would have named the present taxon for Dr. Guy Nesom, but such recognition was extended to him some years ago with the description of Brickellia nesomii B.L. Turner. In light of this I take the opportunity to recognize his collecting colleague, Mr. Paul Lewis, who is currently working on his doctorate in plant systematics at Ohio State University.

Literature Cited

Robinson, B.L. 1917. A monograph of the genus Brickellia. Mem. Gray Herb. 1: 1-151.

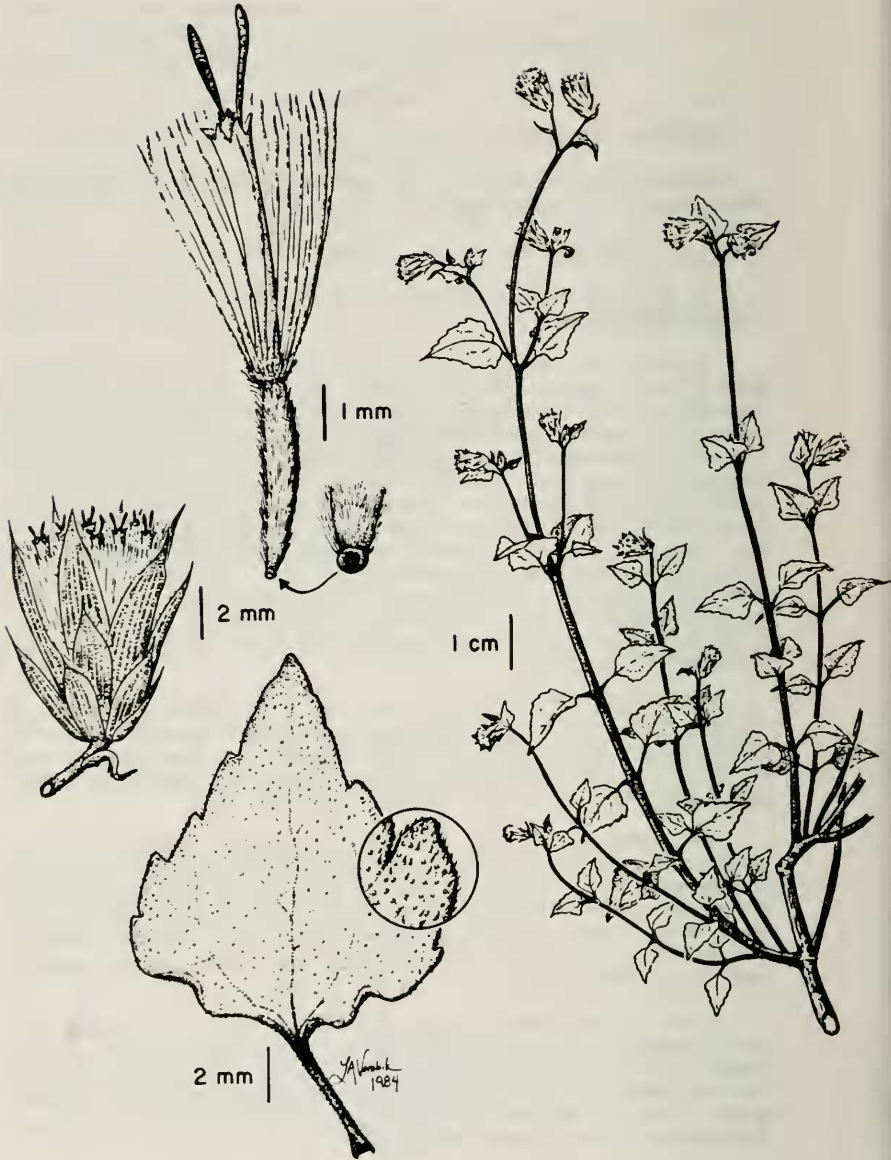


Fig 1. Brickellia lewisii (from holotype).